

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ORC 72-1038

22 September 1972

## MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Soviet Press Commentary on the Effects of  
the Strategic Arms Limitation Accords

1. The treatment of the strategic arms limitation accords in the open Soviet press has emphasized these themes:

-- The accords are in the fundamental interests of both countries, and they contribute to the prevention of nuclear war and to the curbing of the arms race.

-- The accords were made possible by the growing strength of Soviet armed forces and by US acknowledgment of the current state of strategic equality between the two countries.

-- The pivotal principle underlying the accords is "equal security with no unilateral advantages for either side."

-- The accords in no way weaken the defenses of the Soviet Union, but the Soviets will be watching the progress of efforts by "certain circles" in the US to "extract one-sided advantages" under the agreements, and will adjust their policies accordingly.

2. *Red Star*, the Soviet defense establishment's newspaper, has begun to suggest the need for increased military expenditures because of US plans for new strategic weapons programs that are not limited by the accords. The paper has closely followed US press accounts of debates over funding of R&D for the Trident ballistic missile submarine and the B-1 bomber, and it has warned against any relaxation in Soviet military preparedness.

3. There has been no hint in the Soviet press, either civilian or military, that the accords have slowed US strategic weapons programs and will thus


~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

**CONFIDENTIAL**

allow the Soviets to "catch up." Indeed, such a line would be inconsistent with the widely publicized Soviet position that the USSR already has achieved a strategic equality with the US.

4. Attached are representative samples of recent Soviet press reporting on the meaning of SALT. Also attached is an analysis by the Foreign Broadcast Information Service concerning *Red Star's* push for increased military spending.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

	<b>CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY</b> Office of Legislative Counsel Washington, D. C. 20505 Telephone: <span style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 150px; height: 1.2em; vertical-align: middle;"></span>
	25 September 1972
<b>TO: Mr. Richard Perle</b> Subcommittee on National Security and International Operations	
<p>Here is the material I promised you covering Soviet press and radio commentary on the SALT agreement.</p> <p style="margin-top: 40px;">John M. Maury Legislative Counsel</p>	

STAT

FORM 6-68 1533 OBSOLETE  
PREVIOUS  
EDITIONS

(40)